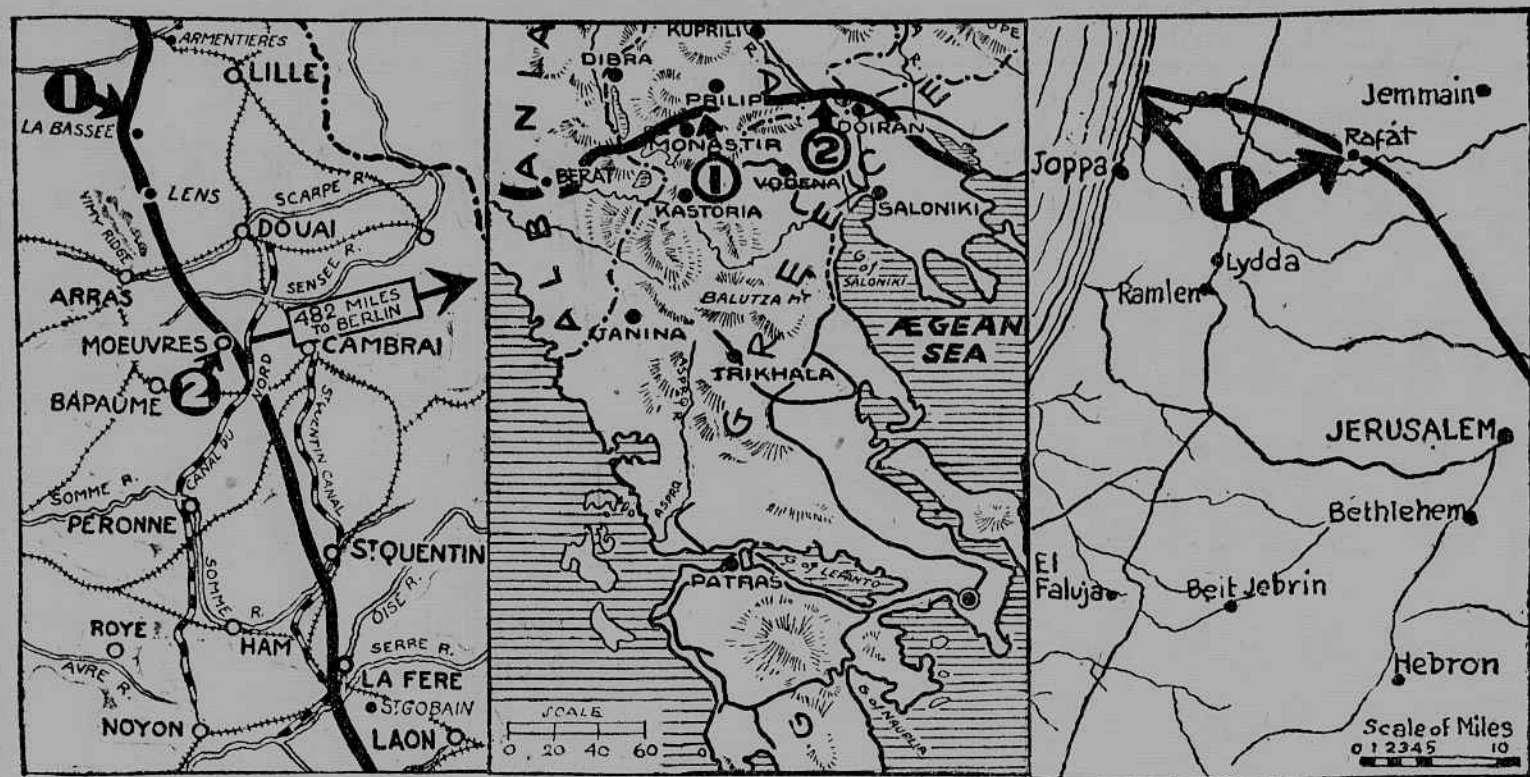


The Great War—1507th Day

ALLIED VICTORIES ON THREE FRONTS



The British advances yesterday in Flanders (1) and west of On the Balkan front, centre section, the Allied armies have driven In Palestine, in a new drive between the arrow points (1) on the coast and twelve miles further inland.

canal, and behind it they have collected some of their very best shock troops.

Emphasize these points so that the efforts of General Haig's troops will be fully appreciated. The British are now heating the best that Germany has to offer. It is no easy job, nor is it any quick romp. With one exception, all the odds favor the enemy. The British troops are better and fresher fighters than the enemy.

British Position Difficult

Although the British troops must cross miles of ruined country, while the Germans have railways almost down to their lines, and though the British have consolidated themselves after each advance, while the Germans drop into prepared positions; although the British artillery must depend upon ammunition brought with the greatest labor by horse power, while German guns are supplied largely by light railways, General Haig's troops are withstanding every counter attack the moment it starts. At this sort of fighting the British are at their best, and there are no troops better.

All this is preliminary to breaking the Hindenburg line. It is the kind of fighting which is calculated to cause General Ludendorff much more alarm than the rear-guard actions last month. An ordinary map would show little change in the lines during the week, but results which count have been achieved by advances of five miles or less since the first of the month.

Huns Ousted From Quarries by Gas And Smoke Attack

(By The Associated Press)

WITH THE BRITISH ARMIES IN FRANCE, Sept. 20.—Beyond local fighting, the British Third and Fourth armies, northwest of St. Quentin, have not been engaged today. In the local operations their new front has been further improved at several places.

The Germans are holding strong machine-gun detachments in the large number of small farms, copses and sunken roads in this vicinity, but a number of these already have been cleared.

In front of St. Quentin there were clashes between the opposing infantry, and the British gained some ground east of Holnon village. Smoke bombs played an important part in the storming of fortified quarries in front of the Hindenburg outpost system northwest of St. Quentin. The quarries, covering an area more than mile deep and two miles in width, have been utilized by divisions of the German Second Army for the construction of an "underground Gibraltar."

Prussian officers, including a regimental adjutant, have been captured. One of the officers said he had been freed by the British who had never been able to capture the quarry.

While the quarries remained in the hands of the Germans, the enemy expected, with supplies of ammunition and machine guns, to be able to prevent the loss of the ridges which hid the Hindenburg main line from observation. The British treated all the quarries to a systematic attack with smoke and shell, with a mixture of gas added.

At the moment of the attack the smoke was let loose amid the pits. Many of the occupants of the quarries ran blindly against the wind, hoping to get free. In doing so they ran into the arms of the English and Australian infantry.

A battalion commander who was found with tears streaming down his face was asked if he had been wounded. "No," he replied, with an added oath. "My eyes are full of smoke."

The Prussians who bet on the impregnability of the quarries forgot to take into account the morale of the troops holding them. Some of the men fought well, even when the Devons and Suffolks of the 74th Division dropped into the pits after exploding smoke bombs. But many others hid until the first British wave passed them and emerged quietly, looking for an escort to the prisoners' cages.

In one dugout in a quarry east of Templeux-le-Guerard, there were more than 100 Germans. The Devons got 100 prisoners in refugees of this kind and the Suffolks 400.

After fighting of this character involves casualties, the losses of the 74th Division were less than half of the total number of prisoners taken.

The 17th Division has been engaged in equally difficult work south of Gouzeaucourt, and also has taken many prisoners, some of them in hand-to-hand struggles in the Gueuche Woods. Its casualties were also far fewer than the number of prisoners taken.

Many Cavalrymen Taken

The troops engaged in the wood had to take redoubts fortified with sheet iron and behind which there were many machine guns. Cavalrymen of the 6th German Division were engaged in the fighting near the wood. They were unaccustomed to this form of warfare, and prisoners of four different cavalry regiments were taken by the 17th Division.

A British brigadier general left his groan near a quarry which he supposed had been cleared of the Germans and went forward to watch the advance of his men. When he returned he found the perplexed groan surrounded by forty armed Germans, demanding that the groan accept their surrender.

Australian troops continued their penetration of the Hindenburg system, and are now two-thirds of a mile from Beilingshe, four miles northwest of St. Quentin.

The British troops swept the cemetery at Fresnoy free of machine guns. Fresnoy, a village one mile east of Fresnoy, which had been strongly defended by reason of the network of old British trenches, was kept under a destructive fire during the night.

Australians lying north of Fresnoy continue their exploration of the Hindenburg outpost system which they had stormed along the front of their first and fourth divisions.

The capture of Moeuvres, last night completely restores the British line in that section of the Canal du Nord. The Germans fought very hard

Yankee Air Squadron In Lorraine Warmly Praised by British

(By The Associated Press)

AMERICAN FORCES ON THE LORRAINE FRONT, Sept. 20.—The commander of the American air squadron on this front has received the following letter from the chief of the British air squadron, with which the American forces have been cooperating:

"I would like very much to express in writing the gratitude felt both by myself and the personnel under my command for the exceptionally fine escort work done by your squadron when escorting the bombing raids."

"We all have agreed that when the squadron is escorting in our raid that we have nothing to fear from the enemy aircraft. Although it often is impossible to fly low, thus making a very long trip over the lines, nevertheless your squadron always has stuck to us."

"On one or two occasions one of our machines would struggle owing to engine trouble, but these machines had no need to fear the attacking enemy aircraft, as one of the escorting machines would always look after the straggler."

"On many occasions enemy aircraft have attempted to attack our bombing machines over the target, but they never have been successful, owing to the excellent work of the escort."

"Finally, I can only say that I do not consider any squadron in France is supplied with a better escort than is my squadron."

Rain Turns Yankee Front Into Quagmire And Stops Fighting

(By The Associated Press)

WITH THE AMERICAN ARMY IN LORRAINE, Sept. 20 (11 a. m.).—Continued rain, which transformed everything at this division had been in the line of this sector only a few days. It is one of the German crack divisions and it was marched into this area from the out sector west of Rheims, where it had been resting.

The prisoners said the 8th would have been sent opposite the Americans to pieces on both fronts, but in the north of the Marne during the German retreat, and had been compelled to await some replacements, which had been long in coming.

An American officer visited an observation post during yesterday, and while he was there the observer saw a movement of troops on the crossroads west of the Moselle. The Germans were moving southward. The officer took charge of the situation by telephoning the artillery, which responded promptly. The gunners opened upon the roadways and a direct hit was scored on the crossroads just as two enemy squadrons had reached that point.

Through powerful glasses the officer saw the shot take effect, killing some of the enemy and wounding others. Great confusion followed, and after the artillerymen had fired on the crossroads the troops moved toward the American lines ceased.

The crossroads were not used during the remainder of the day yesterday.

Americans' Big Guns Fired Forty Shots Into Metz Fortress

AMSTERDAM, Sept. 20.—Metz is under fire of American cannon. Metz newspapers, according to a telegram from Berlin, publish an official statement declaring the Americans ceased their long-range bombardment of the city after firing some forty shots in the night.

"We owe the speedy cessation of the bombardment," says the statement, "to our long-range artillery, which made unpleasant a longer stay of the enemy's long-range gun in its position."

Another official statement relative to the bombardment published in the Metz newspapers follows:

The enemy for several days has been bombarding Metz with a long range gun. Such bombardment always has been possible throughout the war and has long been expected. Modern guns have a longer range than, for example, from south of Metz to Metz. The present bombardment, therefore, is in no wise connected with the fact that the enemy, after our evacuation of the north of Gouzeaucourt, has been British struck on a fifteen-mile line south of that town. The Germans changed their plans and assumed the offensive north of Gouzeaucourt with disastrous results.

In order to his troops concerning raiding activity, General von Bulow, commanding the Seventeenth Army, says:

"This shows that at the present time the British have a fighting superiority over our troops in No Man's Land."

BRITISH HEADQUARTERS IN FRANCE, Sept. 20 (Reuter's, via Montreal).—German casualties in the battle of St. Quentin, which is now quieting down, have been most heavy, owing to the close character of the fighting and the sturdy resistance of the Germans.

The principal centres of the fighting

Military Comment

By W. L. McPherson
(Copyright, 1918, New York Tribune Inc.)

A VITAL feature of Foch's strategy is that it keeps all fronts "operative." This contrasts completely with the inelastic German programme of isolated mass attacks on single limited fronts.

The Foch offensive in France spread from the Marne salient to the Montdidier and Lassigny salients. Then it widened so as to include the La Fere-Laon front, the front from Albert north to Lens and the Lys Valley salient. Finally, the St. Mihiel-Metz sector became involved. And the Germans still face the prospect of Allied drives toward Lille, between Rheims and Verdun and into Alsace.

Carrying the conception further, the Allied army in Macedonia has begun a major offensive against the Bulgarians. And lest the Turks should become unduly elated over their capture of Baku, the great oil port on the Caspian Sea, General Allenby has anticipated the return of the fighting season in Palestine and broken through the enemy's lines running east from the Mediterranean above Jaffa. Only the Italian and Mesopotamian fronts remain quiescent. It is not yet the right weather for campaigning on the Tigris. But the withdrawal of numerous Austro-Hungarian divisions to reinforce the German lines in France plainly invites an Allied offensive this fall in Northern Italy.

General Allenby fought several battles with the Turks last spring on the line of the Jordan River. The Turks had massed their troops on that side to defend the approaches to the railway running down from Damascus to the Arabian Peninsula. On Thursday, therefore, Allenby struck in an opposite direction—at the western end of the Turkish line close to the Palestine coast. He penetrated the Turkish positions between Rafat and the sea to a depth of nineteen miles and took more than 3,000 prisoners. The Turks were routed. This unexpected blow will probably compel the Turkish army to loosen its grip on the Jordan positions and to retire toward the north and northeast. But Turkey will have lost the campaign in Palestine as soon as her forces uncover the Damascus railroad, which is the sole means of communication between Arabia and the rest of the empire.

In Macedonia the defeat of the Bulgarians is taking on the proportions of entry and departure from the fortress zone, therefore, are unaltered.

Battleground About Moeuvres Carpeted With German Dead

BRITISH ARMY HEADQUARTERS, Sept. 19 (evening).—The ground over which the Germans counter attacked the British at Moeuvres and Troscault is covered with dead and enemy casualties are estimated to have been 40 per cent of the troops engaged. The Germans attacked in dense waves, but the assaulting ranks were mowed down by the British defenders.

Particularly strong were the German efforts against the British positions east of High and Havincourt Woods. Here the enemy reached the British position at several places, but very few Germans were able to get out alive.

Prisoners taken by the British say that the Allied attack was expected north of Gouzeaucourt. When the British struck on a fifteen-mile line south of that town the Germans changed their plans and assumed the offensive north of Gouzeaucourt with disastrous results.

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The principal centres of the fighting

ing yesterday were around Ephepy, where an Alpine corps continued a stout resistance, and between Gouzeaucourt and Villers-Guillaume, where the 6th Brandenburg Division was raked to shreds by a machine gun barrage.

The villages of Holnon and Lemperre have been entirely cleared of small pockets of Germans. North of St. Helene the Australians pushed on. The Germans were not disposed to come to grips and only six were made prisoner.

In addition to the eighteen enemy divisions engaged on Wednesday between Gouzeaucourt and the Somme, prisoners have been taken from at least two other divisions of the reserve. One of these divisions was withdrawn from Gouzeaucourt only a week ago, after losing 1,000 in prisoners. The other was withdrawn from Nesle on September 3, after losing 800. Neither of these units has been retrained or rested.

Despite strong resistance, the British drove the Germans through the ruins of Moeuvres, gaining the cemetery and the line of railway. A considerable part of the enemy held out from the British had got through, but being cut off from reinforcements, their position was virtually hopeless.

Germans Bring Up Fresh Troops Against Americans

(By The Associated Press)

WITH THE AMERICAN ARMY IN ALSACE, Sept. 20.—There are indications that the enemy has placed new troops in the line in Alsace opposite the Americans. Some portions of the front, however, apparently are not held by these new men.

An American patrol penetrated the enemy zone on Thursday and walked through the town of Ammerswiler, which was found to be deserted.

Allies Chase Bulgar Army Thirty Miles

Ferdinand's Defeated
Troops Flee From Positions to Avoid Capture

Serbian Cavalry in Pursuit of Enemy

Battle Grows as British and Italians Join in Mighty Smash

By Arthur S. Draper
(Special Cable to The Tribune)
(Copyright, 1918, New York Tribune Inc.)

LONDON, Sept. 20.—The Balkan battle is growing daily. British and Italians having joined the Serbs, French and Greeks in the push against the Bulgarians. The Serbs are making remarkable progress, their advance measuring thirty miles. From Monastir to the Vardar River, a distance of seventy miles, the Bulgarians have evacuated all their front line positions.

The prisoners now number upward of 10,000, of whom the Serbs have captured half, besides sixty heavy guns. Five German counter attacks were broken up before our new positions north of Alletto and east of Moisy Farm. The enemy suffered very heavy losses without obtaining the least results.

On our side we occupied territory west of Anizy and northeast of Vailly. An enemy attempt to cross the Vesle at Jonchery was broken up. Our patrols penetrated the enemy line northwest of Souain (Champagne) and brought back prisoners.

The Allies hold the east bank of the Cerna River for more than ten miles, and some reports state that the stream has been crossed at several points.

Over this country, where the mountains rise above 5,000 feet, communications have been established and maintained with the greatest difficulty, but as the Allies have some good cavalry and the Serbs are unexcelled as mountain fighters, progress at the present pace may continue for several days.

The Bulgarians, apparently, are utterly demoralized and there are signs of complete rout. Their loss in heavy guns is a serious blow to an army which had been promised German assistance for a push this fall.

Bulgar Trenches on Serbian Front All Crushed by Allies

LONDON, Sept. 20.—All the Bulgarian trench systems on the Serbian front have been penetrated. Allied cavalry has taken up the pursuit, and one cavalry unit has crossed the Cerna twenty miles north of the Sokol position. Another force of horsemen has moved the same distance northeast.

The British report on the fighting, issued in Salonica on September 19, says:

"On the morning of September 18 British and Greek troops attacked the enemy's positions west and east of Lake Doiran. West of the lake and south of the town of Doiran the trench system was captured and our line was advanced about four miles. Heavy Bulgarian counter attacks regained part of the ground captured on our left, but on the center and right our positions were maintained."

"East of the lake, after a night advance, we carried the enemy's outpost line. Up to the present more than 700 prisoners have been counted. The Greek troops fought with great gallantry."

"Four of our scouts engaged fourteen enemy machines and crashed two of them to the ground. One of our machines was also destroyed."

The statement from the Bulgarian War Office says:

"East of the Cerna we were undisturbed by the enemy. We occupied new positions previously assigned, which we are consolidating."

"On both sides of Lake Doiran heavy fighting developed. South and west of Doiran, after an excessively heavy bombardment in which the enemy fired 200,000 shells, a force of three British and two Greek divisions attacked in close masses and succeeded in penetrating our advanced positions at several places, but we immediately counter attacked and drove them out at all points, leaving a large number of killed and wounded on the field. More than 500 unarmoured British and Greek prisoners as well as much booty were left in our hands."

PARIS, Sept. 20.—Ten thousand Bulgarian prisoners were sent to the rear on September 18 alone, says Marcel Hutin in the "Echo de Paris." Pursuit of the retreating enemy continues with great success, the article adds.

Serbs Liberate Twelve Towns and Cross Cerna In Pursuit of Bulgars

(Special Dispatch to The Tribune)

WASHINGTON, Sept. 20.—Twelve additional villages have been captured by the Serbian army in its present offensive in Macedonia, which continues without relaxation, according to a cable message from the Serbian Legation today.

It says:

"The advance of the Serbian army continues without interruption in spite of the stubborn resistance of the enemy. Our troops have crossed the line Blatetz-Mrezhehke-Belashintz River. On our left the Bulgarians have completely evacuated the right bank of the Cerna and our troops are now debouching on the left bank of that river."

"The enemy continues to set fire to military stores and camps. We have taken twelve more guns, mostly of heavy calibre, and other war material. We have liberated a dozen additional villages."

PARIS, Sept. 20.—Sub-Lieutenant Boyau, one of the famous French aviators, is reported to-day to have been missing since Wednesday. He is credited with thirty-two aerial victories.

Woevre and in Alsace, there is nothing to report."

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